

**Department of Historic Resources
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

Accomack

DHR Id#: 001-0027-0118

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # Y-045 – Igniter Magazine {Current}
Property Date: 1950
Address(s): Island Road {Current}
County/Independent City: Accomack
Vicinity of: Chincoteague
State, Zip: Virginia 23337
USGS Quad Name: WALLOPS ISLAND
Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal
Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:

<u>Component</u>	<u>Comp Type/Form</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Material Treatment</u>
Chimneys	Chimneys - None		
Foundation	Foundation - Slab	Concrete	Foundation - Poured
Porch	Porch - Flat	Concrete	other
Roof		Earth	other
Structural System	Structural System - Masonry	Concrete	other

Site Description: Located south of Island Access Road behind Y-40 (001-0027-0117).

WUZIT Count:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Wuzit Types</u>	<u>Historic?</u>
1	Magazine	Historic

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Magazine

Est. Date of Construction: 1950 {Owner/written data} Accessed? Yes
Primary Resource? Yes Number of Stories: 1.0
Architectural Style: Other Condition: Good
Interior Plan Type: Irregular Threats to Resource: None Known

Description: The short concrete structure is set on a concrete slab foundation and buried under mounded earth with the west elevation left exposed. The west elevation is trapezoidal in shape and is made of concrete incised with vertical lines to create a series of five panels. Three regularly-spaced steel doors, each of which open into an 8' square cell, are set in the center of the center panel, at the top of a concrete platform; each door is flanked by two metal vent hoods placed near the bottom of the doors. The top of the platform is accessed by a ramp on the south end and set of stairs on the north, both of which have a steel guardrail on the outside edge. The platform is fronted by a short paved area set off of the access drive. The doors are sheltered from above by a cantilevered concrete canopy with aluminum flashing. Three steel vent pipes with rounded, hemispherical caps are located at the east end of the structure, projecting above the grass-covered earth that covers the top, sides and back ends.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

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Historic Context(s): Technology/Engineering

Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

Significance Statement: This one-story building was built in 1950 by NACA and was part of the second phase of permanent NACA construction efforts on Wallops Island. The building has been used since its construction to store explosive igniter used in rocket launches. Now part of WFF, the building is located on Wallops Island in a fenced area on the west side of Island Road, across from Launch Area #2 (001-0027-0118, WFF# Y-045). The building is located at the end of a row of two other similar building s and behind the Propellant Shop (001-027-0117, WFF#Y-040).

The building is associated with a technology/engineering property type built during the New Dominion Period (1945 – present) period. The building was constructed as a component of a rocket research facility operated by the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) under the direction of NACA from 1946 to 1958. Until becoming part of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958, PARS functioned as a rocket research facility that continually refined its capacity to collect aeronautic and scientific data through improvements in radar tracking, radio telemetry, and photographic techniques that provided significant data for the development of Cold War missile technology and manned spaceflight during the Space Race.

The Igniter Magazine has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the demolition of many of the buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959), the removal of much of the historic fabric from the majority of extant buildings, and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. It does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. While the resource retains its location, setting and association, as a secondary resource of common design and materials, the resource is not eligible under Criterion C as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

Bibliographic Documentation

Reference #: 1

Bibliographic RecordType: Book

Author: Joseph Adams Shortal

Citation Abbreviation:

Notes: Shortal, Joseph Adams. "A New Dimension—Wallops Island Flight Test Range: The First Fifteen Years." National Aeronautics and Space Administration Scientific and Technical Information Office: 1978.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<u>Medium</u>	<u>Depository ID #</u>	<u>Photo Depository</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>File Name</u>
35MM B&W	21540	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 5-9

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

Department of Historic Resources
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Accomack

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CRM Event # 1,

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event:</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date:</i>	2004/07/99
<i>Organization or Person:</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments:</i>	200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101 Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event # 2,

<i>Cultural Resource Management Event:</i>	Reconnaissance Survey
<i>Date:</i>	2003/08/08
<i>Organization or Person:</i>	URS Group
<i>VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event: ..</i>	2003-0571
<i>CRM Event Notes or Comments:</i>	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700 Bethesda, MD 20814